

#E1-1642
R21

The Medina County Environmental Action Association, Inc.

202 CR 450, HONDO, TX 78861

www.dontmesswithquihi.com

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Office of the Chief Clerk
MC-105 TCEQ
P. O. Box 13087
Austin, Texas 78711-3087

FD 34284

20 August 05

In regard to Proposed air Quality Permit No. 76337

Dear Sir:

As president of Medina County Environmental Action Association, Inc., I wish to request a contested case hearing concerning the above permit. I was notified by phone on August 10, 2005, by TCEQ officials that the 30-day deadline for submitting this request would be met by submitting this request now. Although this request for a contested case hearing may not have been necessary if a public meeting had been held before the 30-day deadline, I was advised by TCEQ officials to request a contested case hearing at this time.

In a previous letter dated August 5, 2005, I briefly outlined MCEAA history, and stated some of the reasons for concerns and questions our organization has concerning the effect this quarry and rock crusher will have on the air quality locally. Due to the prevailing southeast wind the air quality of San Antonio will also be affected and must be taken into account. As you already know the air quality in Texas has been steadily declining over the past decade, and we are now experiencing more and more ozone action days in the San Antonio area.

At this time we are unaware of the proposed location of the rock crusher. We are also uninformed as to the amount of particulate matter and hydrocarbon chemicals it will produce, what the overall effect of the 1,700 acre quarry's rock crusher will have, combined with the numerous other rock crushers in eastern Medina Co. and western Bexar Co., will have on air quality.

This letter is submitted and signed by only a fraction of our approximately 300 members. These are just some of the people living within one mile of the proposed quarry boundary. As requested by TCEQ, the people will be affected the most by the dust produced by the rock crusher. These signators represent a wide age range varying from 18 months to over 75 years of age. Some have allergies and others are susceptible to diseases such as asthma and emphysema which are induced or aggravated by dust and organic hydrocarbon chemical contaminants that will be produced by the quarry rock crusher. We strongly urge TCEQ to grant our request for a contested case hearing. The Texas legislature created TCEQ and the right to have this type of hearing. We firmly believe the vastness of this proposed project, with its proposed armada of trucks and trains, will adversely affect our air quality and threaten our lives for the next 50 years in an area of Texas that is projected to be the fastest growing county in Texas. We believe these facts justify the need for a contested case hearing.

Lester R. Landrum
Vice President MCEAA
776 CR 354
Hondo, TX 78861
Tel. (830) 426-8295

Sincerely, Dwight Biediger / Eva Biediger
Dr. Robert Fitzgerald
Dr. Robert Fitzgerald

Cc: Sen. Frank Madla
Rep. Tracy King
Victoria Rutson, STB

Co-signers of individuals living within 1 mile of the proposed quarry

Joe H. Balzer
Erna L. Balzer
Velda J. Jarrell
M. J. Adams
S. V. Searcy
Timberley Kinberly Fendley
Sharon Harp Sharon Harp
Larry W. Dykes
David Dykes - 12
Justin Dykes - 10
Cody Dykes - 7
Stallion R. Dykes
Joyce M. Pandrum
Frank C. Fournier III
Lettie Singleton
Robert Porter
Brentlee Portenier - 18 mo
Z. H. Giff
Wanda Adams
J. L. S. S.
Paige Poter
Brenda L. Searcy
C. L. Searcy
M. J. Searcy, Inc., for your S
J. L. Searcy
J. L. Searcy

he proposed quarry:

K. Stumpf Ched
Cynthia Clark
John D. Kessner
Brenda B. Linnepey
Robert M. Clark
Barbara P. Clark
Guy W. Wynn
The Ed Smith
~~John~~
Dean
Marie V. DeChen
Kira Clayton
Sylvia Green
Rory Greer
Cindy Bristol
A. Scott Haas
Margie J. Haas
Pat Wardwell
Barbara Wardwell
William Wardwell
David Harrison
Paul Harrison
Jerry Zehnborg
George Zehnborg
Health and Heritage
Paul
Mark K. Chopra

Panel at Home & Utman

Bill + Mary Belle & my dear
James + Dorcas Dietmar

Fest 6/22
Diana Dowles
Hindusba

Joseph Solomon
Vicki Solomon

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August 23, 2005

ADDENDUM:

To letter dated 8-20-05

TCEQ

During the time this letter was being circulated to obtain the above 69 signatures of people living within one mile of the proposed quarry boundary, MCEAA Board of Directors met with TCEQ air quality officials. Dr. Bernice Beck and Rick Hite graciously presented data pertinent to the impact that the rock crusher would have on air quality of the individuals living close to the rock crusher. Sharing their knowledge and answering questions concerning location of the rock crusher was greatly appreciated.

During the discussion it became clear that TCEQ currently has, unfortunately, limited authority in protecting the air quality and the surrounding environment as a whole. This situation can only be corrected and improved by the Texas State legislature. MCEAA and affiliated environmental groups, such as GEAA, working together with TCEQ can help achieve this goal, the goal of real protection of our air and water quality.

Previously, some people who have commented on this proposed project believe that quarry operations are closely regulated and thus there will be no harmful environmental impacts. These individuals are unaware of just how limited TCEQ regulations really are.

In view of this, we request that Senator Frank Madla and Representative Tracy King be invited to attend the public meeting that we requested so that they, or their representatives, can hear for themselves the questions, comments, and concerns that TCEQ has to deal with. Subsequently, TCEQ replies, the rationale for these answers, and the need for reform can be more clearly understood by legislative members and others in attendance. This needed reform and protection of Texas air and water quality from further degradation can only be done with public support.

We await your decisions concerning granting this contested case hearing, and also on granting the public meeting we requested prior to this.

Sincerely,



Dr. Robert T. Fitzgerald, President
Medina County Environmental Action Association, Inc.

Cc: Senator Frank Madla
Representative Tracy King
Victoria Rutson, Surface Transportation Board, Chief SEA
David Barton, Gardner Law Firm
Dr. Lynn Kitchen, Adams Environmental, Inc.
Hondo Anvil Herald

MCEAA, Inc., for your Home, Health, and Heritage